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Mulberry Missionary Baptist Association

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| v. 1. 1844 | v. 11. 1895 |
| v. 2. 1856 | v. 12. 1896 |
| v. 3. 1873 | v. 13. 1897 |
| v. 4. 1879 | v. 14. 1898 |
| v. 5. 1881 | v. 15. 1899 |
| v. 6. 1885 | v. 16. 1900 |
| v. 7. 1886 | |
| v. 8. 1887 | |
| v. 9. 1889 | |
| v. 10. 1892 | |

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ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES
—OF THE—
SIXTYETH ANNUAL SESSION
—OF THE—
MULBERRY
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH

PLEASANT GROVE CHURCH, CHILTON CO., ALA.,

September the 21st and 22nd, 1887.

OFFICERS:

J. M. THOMAS, MODERATOR, Randolph, P. O., Ala.
R. M. HONEYCUTT, CLERK, Clear Creek, P. O., Ala.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.:
THE ALABAMA BAPTIST PRINT.
1887.

ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR NEXT YEAR.

1. Devotional exercises.
2. Read letters and enroll Messengers.
 - Election of officers.
 - Read rules of decorum.
 - Invite visiting brethren to seats.
 - Invite Churches to unite with our Association.
 - Call for correspondence.
 - Return correspondence.
 - Appoint Delegates to the Baptist State Convention.
 - Appoint Committee on Finance.
 - Appoint Committee on Devotion.
 - Appoint Committee on Documents.
 - Appoint Committee on Family Religion.
 - Fix the hour for meeting and adjourning.
 - Call for Report on Temperance.
 - Call for Report of Committee on Sabbath Schools.
 - Miscellaneous Business.

SECOND DAY.

- Devotional Services.
- Read the Minutes and call the Roll.
- Call for Report of Committee on State Missions.
- Call for Report of Committee on Home Missions.
- Call for Report of Committee on Foreign Missions.
- Call for Report of Committee on Family Religion.
- Call for Report of Committee on Prohibition.
- Call for Report of Committee on Periodicals.
- Report of Committee on Finance.
- Trustees of Indigent Ministers.
- On Documents.
- Appoint the following Standing Committees :
 - On State Missions.
 - On Home Missions.
 - On Foreign Missions.
 - On Sabbath Schools.
 - On Temperance.
 - On Prohibition.
 - On Periodicals.
 - On Ministerial Education.
 - On Trustees of Indigent Ministers.
- Appoint time and place for the next Session.
- Appoint Preacher and Alternate for the next Introductory Sermon.
- Order Clerk's salary, Minutes printed, &c.
- Miscellaneous Business.
- Adjournment.

MINUTES.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST DAY.

The Sixtieth Annual Session of the Mulberry Baptist Association convened with Pleasant Grove Church on Wednesday, Sept. 21st, 1887. The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder J. M. Thomas, according to previous arrangement, from Col. 3d chap., 1st verse—"If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

A recess was then enjoyed by partaking of a bounteous dinner which had been prepared by the good people of Pleasant Grove neighborhood.

The delegates then assembled in the church house and engaged in singing. Prayer was then offered by Bro. S. M. Adams.

J. M. Thomas, the former Moderator, then called the body to order and proceeded to business as follows:

1st. Appointed brethren W. J. Elliott and L. G. Skipper as Reading Committee. Then called the names of the churches. The letters were presented and read, and the names of the delegates enrolled as follows:

Shady Grove—James Fancher,* J F Walker, Joe Helton,* D Wallas, J G Payne.

Antioch—A J Woolley, H L Woolley, D B Smithermon, D W Freeman, J C Hicks,* Z J Corley, M F Merchant, J M Langston, J M Thomas.

Center Hill—J Webb, Thomas Cleckler,* J B Webb.*

Jemison—L J Hand, I N Langston, J M Corderie, W E Lowery.*

Macedonia—W J Nit,* S E Waldrup, J P Nit, S N Waldrup.

New Salem—N J Maddox,* W B Crosby, T G Williams, J H Burnett.

Mars Hill—F M Langston, G W Gothard,* A J Scott,* A J Pate.

Pleasant Grove—D C Hubbard; Albert Patterson, J P Gentry, Joseph Smithermon, J L Thomas.

Pleasant Hill—W P Scott, B M Scott.

Providence—J J Lowery, John Boyd, R M Honeycutt, J E Champion, J M Brantley, H W Houlditch, J B Milstead.

Liberty Hill—J N Williams, Felix Eiland, Jasper Giles.*

Friendship—W C Ogletree, J Bice, G S Collins.
 Rehobath—M F Lowley,* M Longcrier,* James Collins, M J Latham,
 M Merchant,* M V Lowley.

Then proceed to the election of Moderator and Clerk;
 voted by ballot, S. M. Adams and G. T. Leed. Read the
 vote which resulted in the re-election of J. M. Thomas, Mod-
 erator, and R. M. Honeycutt, Clerk.

On motion, omitted the reading of the Constitution, Ar-
 ticles of Faith, and Rules of Decorum.

Invited visiting brethren to seats with us.

Called for correspondence. Received correspondence as
 follows:

From Unity—H W Watson, J L Williams, L G Skipper.

From Shelby—Elders G T Lee and W J Elliot.

From Cahaba—Elder S M Adams.

Open the door for churches.

Returned correspondence as follows:

To the Unity—A E Burnes, J M Corderie.

To Shelby—J M Langston, A E Burnes and L J Hand.

Then appointed delegates to the State convention—J M Langston, A E
 Burns, J M Corderie, A J Wooley, J M Thomas.

Appointed a committee on finance—J M Corderie, A J Wooley and S D
 Posey.

Committee on Devotion—J L Williams, Adam Smith. J G Payne, with
 Pastor and Deacons of Pleasant Grove church.

By motion fixed the hour of commencing and adjourning
 at 8:30 A. M.; and at 4:30 P. M.

The Association then listened to an able address delivered
 to us by Dr. Shackelford in behalf of the Alabama Baptist,
 and was followed by Elder W. J. Elliott in an appropriate
 manner.

The Devotional Committee then made the following re-
 port:

Preaching to-night by W J Elliott at Jemison church. Devotional exer-
 cises to-morrow morning at 8:30, conducted by Elder H W Watson. Mis-
 sionary sermon at 11, by Dr Joseph Shackelford.

Respectfully submitted,

A E BURNS, Chairman.

Call for report of committee on Temperance, the follow-
 ing was offered:

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Temperance means moderation, or a moderate indulgence of the appetites.
 The Apostle Peter admonishes us to add to our faith virtue, and to virtue
 knowledge, and to knowledge temperance, &c.

Now brethren, from this admonition of the apostle it appears that temperance is not only essential to our welfare, but is also essential to our usefulness. And yet, oh how deficient many of us are in this christian grace. Dear brethren, much has been said and written against intemperance in strong drink, and against the whiskey traffic, and I sometimes think that too much could not be said against such an evil as it is, if it could be said by the right ones, and in the right way. But my dear brethren when I have taken this great and important subject into consideration and have investigated it, it makes my heart tremble within me when I know that so many are crying out against intemperance in strong drink, while they themselves are guilty of intemperance in things that are probably as great a sin in the sight of God as that of strong drink, (viz.)—Intemperance in talking—intemperance in dressing—intemperance in eating—and what is still worse, intemperance in the use of tobacco. Oh how many hundreds of people who profess to be christians, and who cry out against intemperance, are guilty of intemperance in these things and many others, and thereby destroy their usefulness here and hurry on the day of their death.

Now brethren if we would have God answer our prayers in behalf of the temperance cause, let us learn to be temperate ourselves. Dear brethren I believe that intemperance in strong drink is abating in our country, for which I am truly thankful. And now brethren of the Mulberry Association and all others who read this, let us carefully examine our own life, and break off from all intemperance that we may be guilty of, and then we may expect to have our prayers answered in behalf of the grand reform from intemperance in strong drink. Trusting that God will help us to do so, I cheerfully submit.

R M HONEYCUTT,
Chairman.

On motion the discussing of the temperance report was referred until 9:30 A. M., to-morrow.

On motion adjourned until 8:30 A. M., to-morrow.

SECOND DAY.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Elder H. W. Watson. The Association then proceeded to business.

1st. Calling the roll and marked absentees. (see table.)

On motion appointed a committee to revise the order of business for next year, J. M. Langston, W. P. Scoot and D. C. Hubbard, committee.

On motion the Association then proceeded to discuss the temperance question. After several speeches the report was adopted. By motion Brother S. M. Adams was allowed ten minutes time to make a statement in his own behalf in reference to some remarks made in the discussion wherein his name was used.

On motion the Association then adjourned until 1 o'clock p. m., and listened to Dr. Shackelford while he delivered us a missionary sermon, from Paul's letter to the Phillippians,

second chapter and a part of the 16th verse, holding forth the word of life. Dinner was again enjoyed by us.

At 1 o'clock business was taken up again.

1st. Called for the report of committee on Sabbath schools.

A statement was then made by A. E. Burnes, why there was no Report on Sabbath Schools, which was satisfactory.

Call for report of committee on State Missions, offered the following:

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS:

"Go forward," should ever be the motto of God's people. The Scriptures, as well as the experience of all christians, teach us that there is no stand still point in the christian life. What is true of the individual is equally true of the denomination; we must toil away and go forward, or we will be driven backward. Which shall it be? It has already been intimated by one who is in position to know whereof he speaks, that we as a denomination are actually on a retrograde at the present time. This is an unwelcome statement and we are loth to receive it, but brethren, does that alter the fact, if it be actually true? Does it not behoove us to meet the question squarely, and see to it that so much may no longer be truthfully said.

Our State Mission Board is exerting itself to the very utmost of its ability to hold up the Baptist cause and evangelize our beloved State. The battle cry of this Board is "Alabama for Christ!"

Certainly there is not a Baptist in the State who would not bid them God speed, and pray for their success in this glorious work; but brethren, to accomplish it will require men and money. Its not enough that we simply cheer them onward, and invoke God's blessings. We must lend a helping hand and aid them in the work.

We call attention to the following summary which will give an idea of the efforts being made and the work accomplished the past year:

No. missionaries employed for all or a part of their time..	47
No. colporteurs employed.....	9
Total number.....	58
No. now employed.....	37
Days of service.....	4 799
Miles traveled.....	25 367
Sermons delivered.....	2 595
Addresses made.....	336
Churches constituted.....	8
No. baptised.....	590
Baptised by others in connection with their labors.....	483
Received by letter.....	389
Sunday schools organized.....	93
Ladies' Mission societies organized.....	10
Prayer meetings organized.....	50
Prayer meetings held.....	560
No. of preaching stations.....	82
No. visits to churches.....	428
No. visits to families.....	5 134
No. subscribers to Alabama Baptist.....	104
No. subscribers to Foreign Mission Journal.....	193

Value of Bibles and Testaments donated.....	100
No. books sold.....	1 319
Value of books sold.....	857 27
Value of books donated.....	131 47

Remember this work has been done in the State during the past conventional year. There was expended in its prosecution, and accomplishment a little over twelve thousand dollars. They ask for fifteen thousand dollars the present year. The welfare of the cause and the increasing demand upon our board for help, as well as the successful prosecution of the present work in hand, demands at least this much. Will the Baptists of Alabama give it? Brethren of Mulberry Association, how much will you give?

Respectfully submitted,

A. E. BURNES, Ch'n.

On motion, agreed to hear the report of Committee on Home and Foreign Missions read, and then discuss the subject of Missions. Call for report of committee on Home Missions, none.

Call for Report of Committee on Foreign Missions, the following was offered.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Your Committee on Missions in Foreign fields would most gratefully record the fact that God has so signally set his seal of approval upon the Mission work upon a people who is subject to the papal See. The marvelous success of our Missions in Mexico, and the real thorough, startling advance made in Italy and Brazil mark an era in the history of our work flushes our sky with the light of new promise, ought to go far to dispel doubt and silence objections, which having seen we may well thank God, and take courage. Our work in Mexico has been a marked increase in congregations as well as in the number of stations and converts in Coahuila alone; their have been over fifty accessions by baptism, and one hundred and fifty now awaits the ordinance.

OUR WORK IN BRAZIL.

All our missionaries speak encouragingly of the work, though they are barely tolerated, they have been bitterly persecuted outside our place of worship. We have no liberty at all, still they have baptised thirty converts and have a native membership of one hundred and seventy-five.

Our Italian Mission though severely tried by sickness and death, there have been twenty-six baptisms, and as many more are awaiting baptism. Our twelve evangelists, some of whom are men of rare ability and culture, as well as thorough consecration, are hopeful, and laboring feeling sure that they are but gathering in the first fruits of a great and blessed harvest. At any rate the commission covers Italy, and the command is, go preach the gospel. Your committee is of the opinion that the success already attained by our missionaries in papal lands should encourage us to press forward these missions with renewed vigor.

Respectfully submitted,

JOAB M. LANGSTON, Ch'n.

After a deliberate discussion the Reports on State and Foreign Missions were adopted.

Then called for the report of Committee on Indigent Ministers, the following was offered.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON INDIGENT MINISTERS.

Dear Brethren of the Mulberry Association, Brother A. B. Hill, is the only minister in the 2nd. District that comes under my jurisdiction. I find him to be almost helpless on account of age and afflictions. I have put his case before the churches and have received help for him as follows:

From Jemison church, \$505; Providence, 5,70; Macedonia, 5,00; Liberty Hill, 16,60; Pleasant Grove, 275; Mars Hill, 2,25; total amount \$27,33. The old brother is very needy and I hope the Association will consider his case and help him some.

Respectfully submitted,

N L. MERONY, Ch'n

The report read and a public collection taken up for the brother which amounted to \$4.80.

Committee appointed to visit Mineral Springs Church offered the following report:

We, your committee, did, on the fifth Sunday in May, visit Mineral Springs Church, and found them destitute of preaching. They are few in number, but they were very anxious to continue their church, and have made arrangements to have preaching next year, and desire to remain in the Association.

Respectfully submitted,

R. M. HONEYCUTT, Ch'man.

The report was read and the committee discharged. The Association still retains the church.

The Committee on the Division of the Association put Mars Hill and Pleasant Grove Churches in the first district.

The Committee on Education offered the following report which was read and adopted:

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Your Committee on Education would respectfully submit the following:

Education, in its broadest sense, (and it is in this sense that we shall consider it) pertains to the whole man, the head, the heart, the hands, the proper and thorough training, developing and disciplining of these that constitute education proper. The careful cultivation of the whole man, in this, our educational system, is somewhat defective, for we often find men whose minds have been cultivated but their hearts neglected. The truth is that such men are but partially educated; the mind, perhaps, has been strengthened and developed greatly to the neglect of his moral and physical faculties, but whenever you find a man or woman whose intellectual, moral and physical powers have all been duly and carefully trained, you have a safe, efficient and reliable human being; an honor to himself, a blessing to his country, and a pleasure to his God.

The foregoing has but a general application. Now the great Lord Bacon once said, and very truly, that knowledge is power; then how important it is that our ministry should have the advantage of this power in battling

with the giant army of God's cause on earth, not that an uneducated man cannot or will not give battle, but that education enables him to battle more successfully, and the time is here now, when valiant successful battling must be done.

We your committee would respectfully recommend that your body take more vigorous and efficient steps to forward the ends of education in general, and especially since the entire tuition fee of those preparing for the ministry, has been remitted in our cherished Howard. We sincerely urge our young men, and particularly our young ministers to go to the HOWARD, and to go with their hearts set upon the glory of Gods cause. And we would urge upon our brethren to assist our young ministers to secure the benefit of a regular course.

Respectfully submitted,

L. J. HAND, Ch'n.

The following Committees were then appointed who will report at the next session of this body:

On Indigent Ministers—N L Merony, M D Langston.
 Home Religion—J M Corderie, J M Gothard, D C Hubbard.
 Education—M D Langston, J G Pain, M D Merchant.
 Periodicals—R M Honeycutt, Adam Smith, D B Smithermon.
 Temperance—N L Merony, J G Pain, N J Maddox.
 Prohibition—H L Woolley, W Y Nit, J N Williams.
 On Sabbath School—A E Burns, H L Hicks, Z J Carley.
 State Mission—J M Langston, S D Posey, L J Hand.
 Home Mission—A J Wooley, J L Thomas, Albert Patterson.
 Foreign Missions—Z J Jones, S E Waldrup, Asey Lee.
 The Finance—offered the following report which was received.
 Your Committee on finance beg leave to report that we have received from the delegates of the Churches as follows: Minutes \$26.75. For State Missions—\$1.25. For General Missions—\$6.85. For Foreign Missions—\$31.65. For Ministerial Education—30cts. Total—\$66.80.
 J M CORDERIE, Chairman.

By ballot R. M. Honeycutt was appointed to preach the Introductory sermon A. E. Burns, alternate.

On motion, agreed that the Clerk have ten dollars for his services and that the balance of funds be paid for minutes.

The Clerk also send the mission money to W. B. Crumpton secretary and treasurer of State Mission Board.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association be tendered to the Pleasant Grove Church and Neighborhood for the kind manner in which they taken care of us, having finished all the business before the body, on motion adjourned to meet at the time and place above stated,
 J M TOMAS, Mod. Randolph, Ala.

R M HONEYCUTT, Clerk, Clear Creek, Ala.

The next meeting of the first district will be held with Rehobath Church commenceing Friday before the first Sunday in August, 1888.

Questions for discussions:

1st. Have we any use for the Domestic Mission Board? opened by Z. J. Jones.

2nd. Is a Sabbath school one surety to the success of a Gospel Church? opened by J. Hicks.

3rd We believe the old and new Testaments to be the word of God and why do we believe it? opened by S E Waldrup.

The next meeting of the second district will be held at Friendship Church on Saturday before the second Sunday in August, 1888. R. M. Honeycutt to preach the Introductory sermon, J. E. Champion alternate.

Subject—Does it harmonize with the New Testament scriptures for us to educate a man for the ministry? opened by W. G. Riggins.

A collection for State Missions was taken up; amount collected \$4.30. On motion, agreed that the next meeting of this Association be with Antioch church, six miles N. W. of Randolph, Bibb, county Ala., on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September 1888.

STATISTICAL TABLE FOR MULBERRY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

		CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	POST OFFICE.	COUNTY.	Day of Meeting..	Baptized	Received by letter.		Restored	Dismissed by letter.		Excluded.	Dead..	Previous Number.	Present Number.	Minute Fund	Missions.	Pastors Salary	Other Ministers.	Repairs, &c.	Value of Church Property.	Number of S. S.	Number of Officers and Teachers.	Number Students.	School Expenses.										
First District.	Antioch..	J M McCord	Six Mile	Bibb		4	33	5	4	13	2	3	1	52	1	76	5	00	19	10	112	00	7	70	74	55	1	7	78	11	00					
	Shady Grove.	T E Taylor	Randolph	Bibb		1	21	2	4	1	4			70		92	3	00					1	7	25											
	Rehobath.	R M Honeycutt	Clear Creek	Chilton		1	1	9		2	1	1	1	10	1	16	2	50					3	50												
	Macedonia	J M Gothard	Jemison.	Chilton		2				5		4				89	1	50		5	00		2	50												
	Pleasant Grove	A E Burns	Jemison.	Chilton		1	1		1	9	1	1	1	17	1	08	2	25		55	00	2	50	68	25	500	00									
	Mars Hill.	J M Gothard	Jemison.	Chilton		4	16	10				1		52		77	1	50		35	00		600	00	1	6	45	7	50							
Second District.	Centerhill.	J E Champion	Clear Creek.	Chilton		2	2						15		17		75					1	50													
	Providence.	R M Honeycutt	Clear Creek.	Chilton		3	4	5		4	1	2	1	42	1	45	2	00	10	00	44	35	15	00	3	00	1	6	65	8	00					
	New Salem.	A E Burns.	Jemison.	Chilton		3	11	4	2	3	1	3		55		67	2	00	6	85	80	00	5	00	3	00	1	8	49	2	30					
	Libertyhill.	R M Honeycutt.	Clear Creek.	Chilton		4							1		41		40	1	25	1	25			16	00											
	Jemison.	G T Lee	Columbiana.	Shelby.		4			5	8	6			95		81	2	50	10	40	175	00	5	15	100	00	1	7	40	35	00					
	Mineral Springs																																			
	Wasahatchey																																			
	Pleasant Hill.	J M Gothard	Jemison.	Chilton		3				5				34		29	1	00																		
	Friendship.	J M Gothard	Jemison.	Chilton		1											1	50					1													
Total.							89	35	16	50	18	14		8	83	10	37	26	75	47	60	501	35	54	35	242	80	2	113	50	7	41	3	02	63	80

THE ALABAMA BAPTIST

IS THE ORGAN OF THE

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